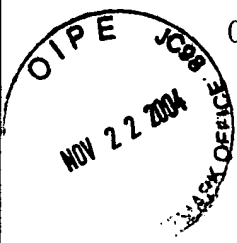


JFW



03500.016230

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: L. Liang
SADATOSHI NARAZAKI, ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2853
Appln. No.: 10/082,182	)	
	:	
Filed: February 26, 2002	)	
	:	
For: INK JET RECORDING APPARATUS	)	
PROVIDED WITH INTERRUPT	:	
CONTROL CIRCUIT AND METHOD	)	
FOR CONTROLLING RECORDING	:	November 22, 2004
APPARATUS	)	(Monday)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENTS

Sir:

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction and election of species requirements set forth in the Office Action mailed October 20, 2004.

The Examiner has stated that the inventions of Group I (Claims 1, 4, 10, 12, 15 and 21) and Group II (Claims 6, 8, 17, 19 and 23) are patentably distinct from each other for various reasons. In addition, the Examiner has required election between four species: Species I (Figs. 1-4), Species II (Fig. 8), Species III (Fig. 9) and Species IV (Figs. 10 and 11). However, Applicants respectfully submit that the various groups of claims are

closely related and that a proper search of any of the claims of one group would likely include a search of the claims of the other group. Thus, it is submitted that all of the claims can be searched simultaneously and that a duplicative search with possibly inconsistent results may occur if the restriction and election of species requirements are maintained.

In addition, because all of the claims have already been searched and examined, there will be no serious burden on the Examiner. (Note M.P.E.P. § 803). Thus, the restriction and election of species requirements are not proper.

In the interest of economy, both for the Office and Applicants, withdrawal of the restriction and election of species requirements are respectfully solicited.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.143, Applicants provisionally elect the claims of Group I. Applicants further provisionally elect Species I. Claims 1, 4, 10, 12, 15 and 21 are believed to be readable thereon.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Williamson", written over a horizontal line.

Mark A. Williamson  
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